MINUTES OF THE WORKFORCE SERVICES AND COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INTERIM COMMITTEE

Wednesday, May 19, 2010 – 10:00 a.m. – Room 450 State Capitol

Members Present:

Sen. Mark B. Madsen, Senate Chair

Rep. Steven R. Mascaro, House Chair

Sen. Patricia W. Jones

Sen. Ralph Okerlund

Sen. Luz Robles

Rep. Laura Black

Rep. James A. Dunnigan

Rep. Neil A. Hansen

Rep. Christopher N. Herrod

Rep. Paul Ray

Rep. Kenneth W. Sumsion

Rep. Christine F. Watkins

Members Absent:

Sen. Daniel R. Liljenquist

Staff Present:

Mr. Arthur L. Hunsaker, Policy Analyst

Mr. James L. Wilson, Associate General Counsel

Ms. Glenda S. Whitney, Legislative Secretary

Note: A list of others present, a copy of related materials, and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at www.le.utah.gov.

1. Committee Business

Chair Madsen called the meeting to order at 10:13 a.m.

MOTION: Rep. Black moved to approve the minutes of the November 18, 2009 meeting. The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Robles, Rep. Hansen, Rep. Herrod, Rep. Sumsion, and Rep. Watkins were absent for the vote

2. Department Reports and 2010 Committee Study Recommendations

Mr. Palmer DePaulis, Executive Director, Department of Community and Culture (DCC), commented on DCC programs that had to be cut due to the current budget crunch and noted the development of a new partnership with universities and other institutions to find innovative ways to deliver services and cut costs.

Mr. Michael Hansen, Deputy Director, DCC, assisted Mr. DePaulis in his presentation and responded to committee members' questions.

Ms. Ally Isom, Government Affairs Director, Department of Workforce Services (DWS), distributed "Public Assistance Caseloads, General Fund Allocation and FTE's" and "10 Year History by State Fiscal Year." She gave a brief update on DWS, including recent reorganization efforts and accomplishments.

Mr. Rick Little, Director, Workforce Research and Analysis Director, DWS, gave an update on Utah's economic outlook, including employment data and an analysis on models, trends, and forecasts.

Mr. Bill Starks, Director, Unemployment Division, DWS, distributed and reviewed handouts "UI Trust Fund Reserve Factor and Social Cost Calculation," "UI Trust Fund Balance Projections," "Average Employer Unemployment Insurance Tax Rates," and "Weekly UI Claims Comparison." He reported on the current state of Utah's Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund and noted that if the current unemployment

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levels continue, the Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund could be actuarially unsound by next January and insolvent by the Fall of 2011.

Mr. Jon Pierpont, Deputy Director, DWS, gave an update on the recent reorganization of the Workforce Development Division and its focus on employer-driven solutions.

Ms. Isom noted that legislative funding for the General Assistance program has declined over the past five years and recommended "General Assistance" as an interim study item for the 2010 interim.

Mr. Spencer Eccles, Executive Director, Governor's Office of Economic Development (GOED), gave a power point presentation and distributed a packet of information, "Utah Governor's Office of Economic Development - Business Tourism - Film" and "Utah Life Elevated - Utah Office of Tourism Annual Report 2009." He updated the committee on the Tourism Marketing Performance Fund.

Mr. Derek Miller, Managing Director, GOED, continued with the power point presentation, which included an update on corporate recruitment, business growth and incentives.

Mr. Eccles gave an update on the West Coast Business Marketing Initiative and recommended this issue as a committee study item for the 2010 Interim. He also recommended a study item related to tax credits for motion picture productions.

Ms. Leigh von der Esch, Managing Director, Tourism, GOED, gave an update on the tourism market for Utah and previewed television spots for marketing Utah as a tourist destination.

3. Sunset Review: Utah Commission for Women and Families Act

Mr. Hunsaker distributed and reviewed "Title 63 M Chapter 08 - Utah Commission for Women and Families Act."

Ms. Lynette Rasmussen, Director, Office of Child Care, DWS, recommended on behalf of DWS that the Utah Commission for Women and Families Act be allowed to sunset.

MOTION: Rep. Dunnigan moved to recommend that the Utah Commission for Women and Families Act be allowed to sunset. The motion passed unanimously with Rep. Black, Rep. Hansen, and Rep. Watkins absent for the vote.

4. Committee Members Recommendations for Study

Chair Madsen invited committee members to contact staff if they have any specific recommendations for additional study items for the 2010 Interim.

5. Other Items /Adjourn

MOTION: Sen. Jones moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. Rep. Black, Rep. Hansen, and Rep. Watkins were absent for the vote.

Chair Madsen adjourned the meeting at 12:18 p.m.